



VIENNA POLICE HIGHLIGHTS

March 5, 2010

The following summary contains various incidents of general interest as well as vehicular crashes handled by the Town of Vienna, Virginia Police Department from February 26, 2010- March 4, 2010. Readers are reminded that an “arrest” is based upon probable cause and does not always mean that someone was physically taken into custody. Furthermore, it does not mean that an individual is automatically guilty of a crime. Judicial outcomes and post- arrest proceedings may be researched through the appropriate court’s website.

(VIENNA POLICE HIGHLIGHTS is not meant to be a listing of every incident or call handled by the Vienna Police, but merely a more substantive summary of several incidents which may be of interest to the community. Some reports may be outside the date parameters due to extended investigations or other circumstances. Some cases are not included at all due to ongoing investigations. Please contact MPO Bill Murray for further information at wmurray@viennava.gov)

INCIDENTS

Fraud Case- Identity Theft 10-1594

100 Block Patrick Street, SE

Between 2001 and 2007

A citizen advised that an unknown subject had been using his Social Security number fraudulently.

The citizen was alerted by the Internal Revenue Service after filing his 2009 tax return. They reported that another individual using his Social Security number had already filed a return in 2009, 2008, and 2007.

This case is still being investigated.

Fraud Case- Credit Card 10-1590

200 Block Manvell Road, SE

January 12, 2010

A citizen advised that an unknown subject had made fraudulent charges using her credit card number.

This case is still being investigated.

Abandoned Vehicle 10-1569

400 Block Talahi Road, SE

Between February 1 and February 28

A citizen advised that a vehicle had been abandoned near their home.

MPO Evans located the vehicle and affixed a 10 day towing tag.

The Traffic Squad will follow up on this case.

Fraud Case- Bank Account 10-1518

1200 Block Kelley Street, SW

February 16 12:00 p.m.

A citizen reported that an unauthorized individual had withdrawn funds from her bank account.

This case is still being investigated.

Burglary 10-1207

600 Block Roberts Drive, NW

February 16 between 7:00 a.m. and 9:40 p.m.

A citizen reported that during the listed times unknown subjects defeated a rear door lock and unlawfully entered his home. While inside steaks and various electronic equipment was stolen.

This case is still being investigated.

Animal Case 10-1607

300 Block Edwin Lane

February 18 8:00 a.m.

A citizen reported that her daughter had been bitten by a dog. The dog was being kept at the house on a temporary basis.

ACO Barker will follow up on this case.

Vehicle Tampering, Petit Larceny 10-1583

800 Block Meadow Lane, SW

Between February 22 at 8:00 p.m. and February 23 at 10:19 a.m.

A cell phone and some coins were stolen from the interior of an unlocked vehicle during the listed times.

This case is still being investigated.

Arrest- Warrant Service 10-930

100 Block Lewis Street, NW

February 25 8:36 p.m.

Officer Myers and Detective Sheeran served an arrest warrant on Oscar Hernandez, 34, of Lewis Street in Vienna. The warrant charged Mr. Hernandez with Possession of a Schedule I, II Controlled Substance.

Mr. Hernandez was arrested and transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center. There he was formally served with the warrant and held on a \$2500.00 bond.

Arrest- Drunk in Public 10-1527

800 Block Maple Avenue, East

February 26 5:24 p.m.

A citizen called police after observing an individual lying on the ground near the Westwood Country Club.

MPO Evans located the individual and determined that he was intoxicated.

Mark Stuart Medlin, 54, of no fixed address was arrested for Drunk in Public.

He was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center.

Arrest- Driving While Intoxicated 10-1560

400 Block Maple Avenue, East

February 28 2:42 a.m.

Sergeant Smith conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle after observing it commit a traffic violation. Upon his interaction with the driver Sergeant Smith detected signs of possible impairment.

After attempting to complete several field sobriety tests the driver, 25 year old Steven Woodruff Wingfield of South Washington Street in Baltimore, Maryland was arrested for Driving While Intoxicated.

Mr. Wingfield was transported to Vienna Police Headquarters for analysis of his breath. After analysis he was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center.

Stolen Vehicle Recovery 10-1586**100 Block Kingsley Road, SE****March 1 11:08 a.m.**

A citizen called to report that a vehicle had been abandoned near their home. Officer Lyons responded and determined that the vehicle was a stolen vehicle from a location in Fairfax County.

The vehicle's owner was notified and responded to take custody of it.

This case is still being investigated.

Found Property 10-1593**100 Block Tapawingo Road, SE****March 1 4:57 p.m.**

A citizen reported finding a GPS unit in his yard. Officer Myers attempted to make contact with the owner after using creative investigation to locate its home address. The owner was not available.

Traffic Complaint 10-1630**200 Block Cherry Street, SW****March 2 10:52 a.m.**

PFC Mangan located an abandoned automobile. Upon checking the registration, he learned that the license plates belonged on another vehicle.

The vehicle was towed and stored.

Burglary 10-1644**100 Block Niblick Drive, SE****March 2 between 1:30 p.m. and 6:19 p.m.**

A citizen reported that during the listed times unknown subjects forced entry in to his home and stole electronic equipment. The subjects apparently forced entry through a garage door.

This case is still being investigated.

Arrests- Drunk in Public 10-1646

200 Block Cedar Lane, SE

March 2 10:12 p.m.

A security guard patrolling the property at the Vienna Park apartments alerted police after finding two individuals consuming alcohol in a stairwell. The guard asked the two men to leave and they refused.

Officer Vazquez responded and while investigating, determined that the two men were intoxicated.

Both men were arrested for Drunk in Public and transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center.

Arrested:

Jose Rogelio Magana Morales, 24, of Cedar Lane in Vienna
Jose H. Santos, 44, of no fixed address

Domestic Assault 10-1658

200 Block Cedar Lane, SE

March 3 6:40 p.m.

A wife reported that she had a verbal altercation with her husband. The husband then hit her on top of the head with a closed fist.

The warrant obtainment process was explained to the wife as she left to stay with her mother.

Grand Larceny 10-1667

1000 Block Maple Avenue, East

Between March 3 at 10:30 p.m. and March 4 at 6:53 a.m.

A citizen reported that during the listed times unknown subjects broke out a rear window on his parked vehicle. The subjects then stole the trunk lid and removed the rear seat. The left rear door panel and a visible GPS unit were taken as well.

This case is still being investigated.

Suspicious Event 10-1684**1000 Block Pickett Place, SW****March 4 between 1:00 p.m. and 3:15 p.m.**

A citizen reported that an unknown individual attempted to solicit funds from her. The caller posed as a representative of the Vienna Police Department Association.

The victim gave the caller her credit card number. After thinking it over she responded to the Vienna Police station to inquire about the legitimacy of the call.

She was told that the Vienna Police NEVER solicit funds over the phone and that it was a false call. The woman was instructed to cancel her credit card immediately.

***** NOTE TO CITIZENS- The Vienna Police Association occasionally solicits funds through a mailing accompanied by an official letter and contact information. Citizens are reminded to never give out personal or financial information to a caller unless YOU initiate the call.**

CRASHES

Maple Avenue near Saint Andrews Drive, NE 10-1443**February 24 9:00 a.m.**

Sergeant Elias was working stationary RADAR in a Vienna Police cruiser on the service road next to the 1100 block of Maple Avenue. A second vehicle was travelling westbound in the right travel lane of Maple Avenue. A third vehicle was travelling westbound in the left travel lane, next to the second vehicle.

The third vehicle changed lanes to the right and struck the second vehicle. Both the second and third vehicles then travelled across the intersection at Saint Andrews and struck the stationary police cruiser.

The driver of the third vehicle which changed lanes was charged with Improper Lane Change.

There were no injuries sustained as a result of the crash.

Hit and Run 10-1445**Parking Lot of 410 Maple Avenue, West****February 24 10:07 a.m.**

While parked, a vehicle was struck by another vehicle. The driver of the striking vehicle left the scene without leaving any contact information.

Hit and Run 10-1459**Parking Lot of 203 Maple Avenue, West****February 24 12:39 p.m.**

While parked, a vehicle was struck by another vehicle. The driver of the striking vehicle left the scene without leaving any contact information.

Courthouse Road near Maple Avenue, SW 10-1414**February 24 1:38 p.m.**

While exiting a parking lot area one vehicle struck another which was stopping in the left turn lane of Courthouse Road at Maple Avenue.

No charges were filed in this case.

Courthouse Road near Maple Avenue, SW 10-1519**February 25 1:38 p.m.**

When the striking vehicle involved in the above case (#10-1414) attempted to back up in to the parking lot after the initial crash, it struck yet another vehicle.

No charges were filed in this case.

MEDIA RELEASES**Case Update- Area Scammers Sentenced**

In early 2009 members of the Town of Vienna community reported that an unknown subject was posing as a Town of Vienna employee in an attempt to obtain money by fraudulent means from elderly residents. As the result of extensive investigation by Vienna Police detectives and federal authorities, two men were arrested in October of 2009 and charged with the offenses.

On February 26, 2010 one of the men, Donald Ray Norcross, 26, of Culpeper, Virginia was sentenced to 27 months in prison and will have to pay \$27, 100 in restitution to his victims.

In January of 2010 Robbie Breeden, 25, of Culpeper, Virginia was sentenced to 9 months in prison for his role in the conspiracy.

From the April 7, 2009 Town of Vienna Police Department's Media Release:

The Public's Help is Needed in Identifying a Man Posing as a Town of Vienna Employee

The Town of Vienna Police Department needs the public's help in obtaining further information about a man posing as a Town of Vienna employee.

Starting sometime in mid February, an individual began going door to door posing as a Town of Vienna Water and Sewer employee. This individual made contact with several residents and gained entry in to their homes. On several occasions the individual discussed water and sewer repairs that may need to be made and requested a partial payment so the work could commence.

In other cases, no money was exchanged and the individual merely gained entry to the home and discussed plans for future repairs after posing as a Town of Vienna employee.

In all cases the subject did not possess valid Town of Vienna employee identification and was not an actual employee.

Police detectives have begun collecting information for the arrest and prosecution of this individual. Detectives would like for anyone that had any contact with an individual purporting himself to be a town employee, and that gained access to their home or discussed repairs which might have involved the town, to call police.

Press release from the U.S. Attorney's Office:

Culpeper Man Sentenced 27 Months for "Granny Ripping" Schemes

ALEXANDRIA, Va. – Donald Ray Norcross, 26, of Culpeper, Va., was sentenced today in Alexandria federal court to 27 months in prison, followed by three years of supervised release, for targeting vulnerable elderly homeowners and defrauding them of tens of thousands of dollars through bogus repairs and services. He was also ordered to pay \$27,100 in restitution.

Neil H. MacBride, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, and Jeffrey Irvine, Special Agent in Charge of the United States Secret Service's Washington Field Office, made the announcement after Norcross was sentenced by United States District Judge Leonie M. Brinkema.

“Robbing vulnerable seniors is a shameful crime that can’t be tolerated,” said U.S. Attorney MacBride. “This is one of many cases we are investigating to ensure that the elderly in our communities are protected from this despicable kind of fraud.”

“‘Wood chucking’ investigations are cases that very much impact our communities,” said Special Agent in Charge Irvine. “Today’s sentencing is a clear example of how our local, state and federal law enforcement officers and prosecutors share a common commitment to protect our most vulnerable neighbors from financial predators.”

According to court documents, Norcross and others engaged in a scheme that conspirators dubbed “woodchucking” or “granny ripping,” in which they would identify wealthy elderly homeowners – typically in the Northern Virginia area and often with mental or physical difficulties – and offer to provide unnecessary services, such as fake utility work or unnecessary home repair and yard work. The conspirators would also trick the homeowner into paying thousands of dollars multiple times for the same work, issuing replacement checks for checks that had allegedly been “lost” and writing checks in the names of individuals who had done no work. Norcross is the third defendant to be sentenced in case. Last month, Robbie Breeden, 25, also of Culpeper, Va., was sentenced to 9 months in prison for his role in the conspiracy. The investigation is ongoing.

This investigation is coordinated by the U.S. Secret Service and includes law enforcement from Arlington County, Fairfax County and Vienna Police Departments; Virginia State Police; and the U.S. Marshals Service. Assistant United States Attorney Charles F. Connolly and Special Assistant United States Attorney Michael Whitlock are prosecuting the case on behalf of the United States.

A copy of this press release may be found on the website of the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Virginia at <http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/vae>. Related court documents and information may be found on the website of the District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia at <http://www.vaed.uscourts.gov> or on <http://pacer.uspci.uscourts.gov>.

OF INTEREST/ CASE UPDATES

From the July 10, 2009 Vienna Police Highlights:

Arrest- Narcotics Violation 09-6248

500 Block Glyndon Street, NE

July 7 12:59 a.m.

Sergeant Taylor conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle for a traffic offense. After interacting with the driver, Sergeant Taylor detected signs of the possible involvement of alcohol in relation to the driver.

Further investigation revealed a substantial amount of suspected MDMA; more commonly known as Ecstasy. The driver, 25 year old Patrick Gregory Thompson of Satinwood Court in Vienna was arrested and transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center.

There he was formally charged with Possession with the Intent to Distribute Schedule I Narcotics. No charges were made regarding alcohol. He is currently being held on a \$2500.00 bond.

Case Update- 09-6248

On March 2, 2010 Sergeant Taylor served an arrest warrant that he had obtained for Possession with Intent to Distribute MDMA. The arrested subject, Patrick Gregory Thompson was arrested and transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center. There he was formally charged and issued an unsecured bond of \$5000.00.

Mr. Thompson was then released and brought back to Vienna.

From the February 5, 2010 Vienna Police Highlights:

Petit Larceny 10-854
James Madison Shell
545 Maple Avenue, West
January 30, 2:30 p.m.

An employee advised that a subject had driven away without paying for their fuel.

Officer Finelli is continuing to investigate this case.

Case Update- 10-854

After investigating the described case Officer Finelli located the subject on March 3, 2010. Subsequent to interviewing the individual, she returned to the station and paid for the fuel. The station management declined to prosecute.

Please contact MPO Bill Murray for further information on any of these cases at wmurray@viennava.gov or 571.251.0770.